GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2376
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
REDUCTION IN PRICES OF COMPUTERS
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to encourage the use of computers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken thereon; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to cut down the prices of computers in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) and (b): To encourage the use of computers in the country, instructions had been issued by Planning Commission to the States as well as Central Ministries for earmarking an amount exceeding 2-3 per cent of Ministry/Department`s budget for initiatives relating to furthering the use of information technology, including training, acquisition of hardware etc.

The National Informatics Centre (NIC), Department of Information Technology has also acted as a catalyst in promotion of e-governance applications in the country. These applications require computers for their implementation. The efforts of NIC over the years have lead to the promotion of use of computers in the Central and State Government Departments.

(c): The Government is facilitating the Industry to make available computers at affordable prices in the country. The Government has taken a number of steps for promotion of Electronics / IT hardware manufacturing and cutting down the prices of electronics hardware, including computers. These are listed at Annexure.